opportunities for greater cooperation between the tobacco industries of the two countries.

During this Session both sides agreed to take necessary steps for diversification of bilateral trade especially in high quality and hi-tech items. The relaxation of value addition norms by Govt. of India for goods exported under the rupee debt repayment regime has created a favourable environment for export of hi-tech items form India.

Export Promotion Councils

1085. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Export Promotion Councils, including their achievements during last one year, State-wise;

(b) what are the rules and regulations for appointment of Chairmen of Export Promotion Councils;

(c) the names of the present incumbents to the Chairmanship of different Councils and since when they are occupying the post; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, "CHEMEXCIL" is occupying the post beyond the prescribed tenure; if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There are 20 Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) out of which 11 under the administrative control of the Deptt. of Commerce and 9 are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles. The names of Export Promotion Councils are given in the enclosed statement (See below). These Councils are registered as non-profit organisations under the Companies Act/ Societies Registration Act. The Councils function on a national level and therefore, Statewise data of their performance is not available.

(b) The appointment of Chairman of Export Promotion Councils is governed by the Memorandum & Articles of Association/Byelaws adopted by the respective Export Promotion Councils.

(c) The names of present Chairmen of different Councils alongwith the date of appointment as Chairman are indicated in the statement referred to in part (a) of the reply.

(d) No, Sir. Shri Ramu S. Deora, present Chairman of the "CHEMEXCIL" was first elected in September, 1996 for two years. From September, 1998, he has been re-elected as Chairman for 2nd term of two years.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Council	Name of the Chairman	Date of Appointment
1.	Electronics & Software	Shri Vivek Singhal Computer EPC	28-09-99
2.	Engineering EPC	Shri J.S. Bhasin	14.12.99
3.	Shellac EPC	Shri Prakash Kumar Thaker	24.02.2000
4.	Council for Leather Exports	Mohd. M. Hasim	03.05-99
5.	Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceutical & Cosmetics EPC	Shri Ramu S. Deora	(28.9.96 and re-elected from 28.09.98)
6.	The Plastic EPC	Shri Mahesh K. Shah	07.01.2000
7.	Chemicals & Allied Products EPC	Shri P.N. Roy	28.10.99
8.	Overseas Construction of India Ltd.	Dr. Som Datt	30.11.98
9.	Gem & Jewellery EPC	Shri Parveen Shankar P. Pandya	31.10.98
10.	Sports Goods EPC	Shri D.K. Mittal	04.09.98
11.	Cashew EPC	Shri P. Bharathan Pillai	28.09.98
12.	Handicraft EPC	Shri Ravi K. Passi	16.11.99
13.	The Indian Silk EPC	Shri P. Jacob Samuel	26.06.98
14.	Powerloom Development EPC	Shri M.S. Mathivanan	06.01.99
15.	Wool & Woolens EPC	Shri Ashok Jaidka	11.08.99
16.	The Handloom EPC	Shri M. Sivakkannan	28.01.2000
17.	Carpet EPC	Shri Shreedhar Mishra	29.04.99
18.	The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles EPC	Shri Ganesh Kumar Gupta	18.12.98
19.	The Cotton Textiles EPC	Shri D.S. Alwa	23.09.98
20.	Apparel EPC	Shri Raju B. Goenka	01.01.2000